

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 3, 8, 9 and 14 are amended to address the claim objections noted by the Examiner. The changes to the claims merely clarify the meanings of acronyms used and correct an antecedent basis error. The changes do not limit or narrow the scope of the claims and are not made for reasons related to patentability.

2. Claims 1-11 are not anticipated by Cobo et al. ("Cobo") (U.S. Patent No. 6,496,690) under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Applicant's invention recites, in claims 1 and 11, that "an indicator value indicating the specific use, in more detail than the service type indicator value, of the packet-switched communication connection" is transmitted within the activation request message.

This is not disclosed or suggested by Cobo. Cobo simply discloses that a Create PDP Context Request should be complemented with an indicator that describes the subscriber as having a prepaid subscription. This is not the same as, and is distinctly different from an indicator value indicating the specific use, in more detail than the service type indicator value, of the packet-switched communication connection being transmitted within the activation request message.

The table in Fig. 5 in Cobo illustrates the existence of the prepaid indicator within the Create PDP Context Request message. It is worth noting that in Cobo, information about the subscription being of the prepaid type is only passed between the network elements of the fixed network. In other words, Cobo never considers indicating the prepaid nature of the subscription

in e.g. an Activate PDP Context Request message, as claimed by Applicants.

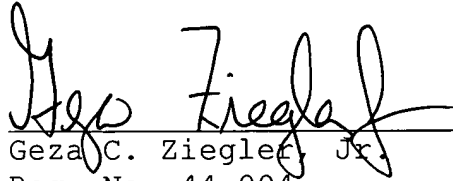
In Cobo, the information about the subscription being prepaid is not connection specific, but is rather subscription-specific information. Applicant's invention claims indicating the specific use of a packet-switched communication connection between a mobile station and a fixed packet switched data transmission network, not merely the nature of a subscription. Cobo merely indicates the nature of a whole subscription and only passes the information about the subscription being prepaid between the network elements of the fixed network.

Furthermore, in Applicant's invention, as recited in claims 1 and 11, the "indication" is transmitted in an activation request message and not in a create-type request message as in Cobo. In Cobo, at 83, the SGSN sends a Create PDP context message to the GGSN and includes the PPSC 40 (Col. 7, lines 50-51). This is not the same as the Activation Request Message of Applicant's invention.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$950 is enclosed for a three-month extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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11 MARCH 2004
Date

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